# Generator Interconnection Report Pursuant to Order No. 2018-803(A) Docket No. 2018-202-E January 31, 2021

### I. Status of the Companies' Queues

Figures 1 through 4 below illustrate a summary of the status as of December 31, 2020 of all Interconnection Requests ("IRs") 20kW and greater that are in operation or currently active in the Companies' South Carolina state-jurisdictional interconnection queues, at both the transmission and distribution level for each utility.

### Figure 1

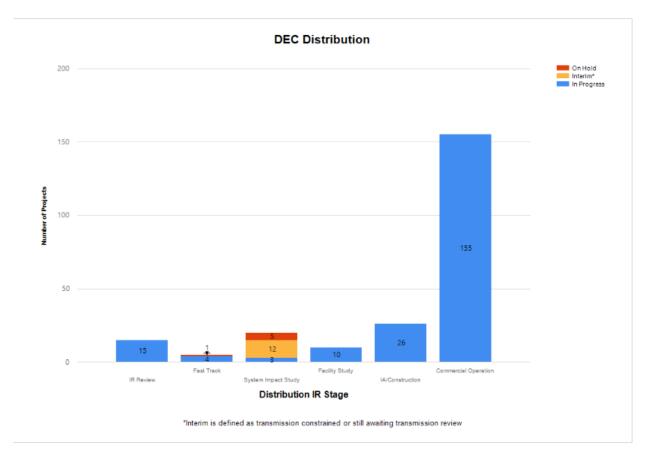


Figure 2

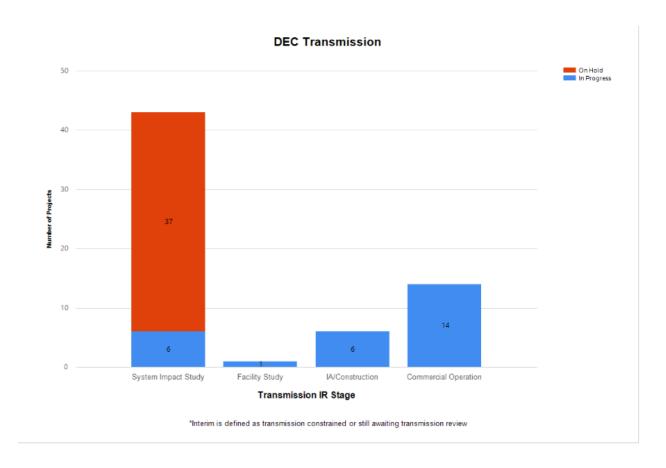


Figure 3

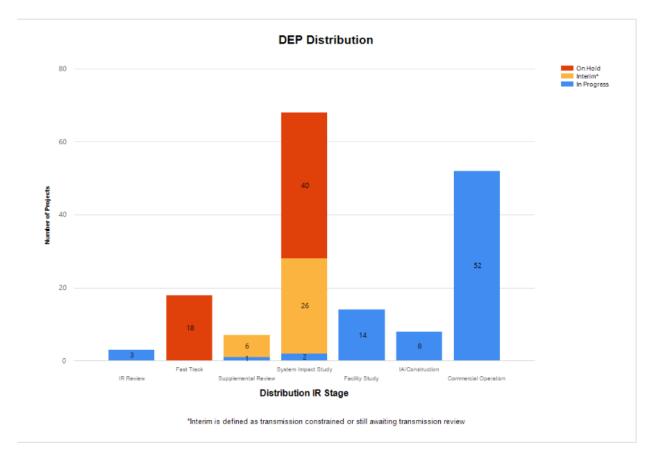
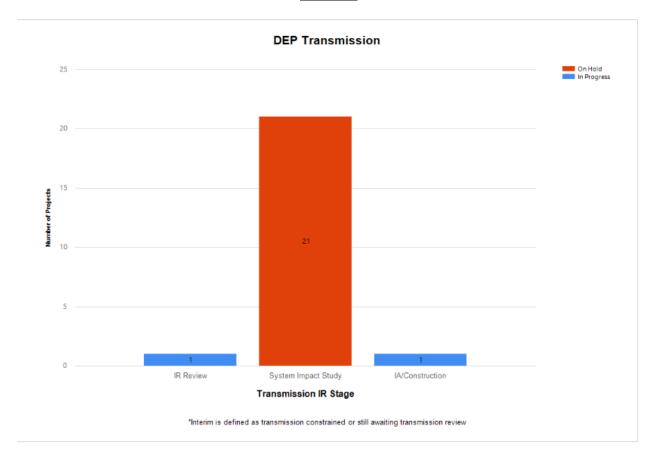


Figure 4



*IR Review*: This term means an IR has been submitted by the customer and is in the process of being reviewed for completeness.

Fast Track: This term means that the IR is eligible for the Fast Track study process (SCGIP Section 2) and the utility is performing the Fast Track screens. (Note: Figures 2 and 4 do not measure Fast Track because projects greater than 2MW are not eligible for consideration for Fast Track)

Supplemental Review: This term means that the IR failed the Fast Track screens review and the utility is performing a Supplemental Review (SCGIP Section 3).

*System Impact Study*: This term means the utility is performing a System Impact Study (SCGIP Section 4).

Facilities Study: This term means the utility has completed the System Impact Study and is performing a Facilities Study (SCGIP Section 4).

*IA/Construction*: This term means the IR has completed all study phases.

Commercial Operation: This term means the project has completed construction and is operational.

### II. Reasons for the SC Interconnection Queue Challenges

The reasons for the Companies' SC interconnection queue challenges remain the same as those described in the October 31, 2019 report.

### III. The Companies' Plans to Remedy the Queue Challenges

The Companies' plans to remedy their queue challenges remain the same as reported in the October 31, 2019 report, with the following updates:

- On October 15, 2020, the North Carolina Utilities Commission issued an Order approving the queue reform proposal.
- The Companies held a stakeholder meeting to discuss the queue reform proposal in South Carolina on October 30, 2020.
- On November 17, 2020, the Companies filed the queue reform proposal in South Carolina through revisions to the South Carolina Generation Interconnection Procedures.
- The Companies intend to host two more stakeholder meetings in Q1 2021 before filing the queue reform proposal with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in early 2021.
- After receiving the required approvals in all three jurisdictions, the Companies will immediately begin the transition to a first-ready first-served queue, with the goal of opening the enrollment for the first definitive cluster study in Q4 2021.

# IV. Indicate Which Projects Have Been Bid into CPRE (including which projects were selected as CPRE winners and which projects bid into CPRE but were not selected)

<u>RESPONSE</u>: Please see the August 1, 2019 report filed in this docket that includes the CPRE Tranche 1 winners and projects that were not selected. The Tranche 2 winners and losers will be disclosed through the Independent Administrator's Final Report, which is expected to be issued in the coming weeks.

## V. Identify the Intervals for Every Significant Milestone for Every Queued Ahead Non-CPRE Project (if requested by the Office of Regulatory Staff)

<u>RESPONSE</u>: The Companies have provided below statistics on the significant milestones for all Non-CPRE projects greater than 20kW in the Companies' interconnection queues:

a. Intervals between receipt of the Interconnection Request and execution of Interconnection Agreement.

IR to IA Executed Interval

	Overall	Distribution	Transmission
MIN	59	59	64
MAX	1742	1742	1120
AVG	471	473	436
Projects Included	244	233	11

b. Intervals for receipt of System Impact Studies Agreements and System Impact Studies completed. Note: Duke Energy's DataMart system does not capture date of receipt of the executed System Impact Study Agreement. Instead, the Companies have provided SIS Start to SIS End interval.

**System Impact Study Intervals** 

	Overall	Distribution	Transmission
MIN	2	34	2
MAX	1817	1817	432
AVG	407	441	121
Projects Included	138	123	15

c. Intervals for receipt of Facilities Studies Agreements and Facilities Studies completed. Note: Duke Energy's DataMart does not capture date of receipt of the executed Facilities Study Agreement. Instead, the Companies have provided Facilities Study Start to Facilities Study End interval.

### **Facility Study Intervals**

	Overall	Distribution	Transmission
MIN	1	1	1
MAX	533	533	159
AVG	159	164	85
Projects Included	78	73	5

d. Intervals between studies completed and the Interconnection Agreement received. Note: The Companies have interpreted this request to intend the interval from Facilities Study Complete to when the IA was delivered to the customer.

**Facility Study to IA Mailed Intervals** 

	Overall	Distribution	Transmission
MIN	0	0	29
MAX	541	368	541
AVG	59	52	208
Projects Included	73	70	3

### VI. Provide Aggregate Statistics on CPRE and Non-CPRE Projects, including:

**a.** The actual allocation of FTEs and person-hours devoted to the processing of CPRE and non-CPRE projects (for the transmission and distribution queues), including on a per-project and per-megawatt basis.

RESPONSE: Please see the October 31, 2019 Report for these details for CPRE Tranche 1. The CPRE Tranche 1 winners have executed Interconnection Agreements and exited the queue. Each project will progress through the construction phase to commercial operation based on the milestones established in the Interconnection Agreement. The Companies intend to provide information for Tranche 2, similar to the Companies' October 31, 2019 report for Tranche 1, after the Tranche 2 winners have executed interconnection agreements and exited the queue.

**b.** Information on Interconnection Study Intervals for System Impact Studies and Facilities Studies for CPRE versus non-CPRE projects.

#### **RESPONSE**:

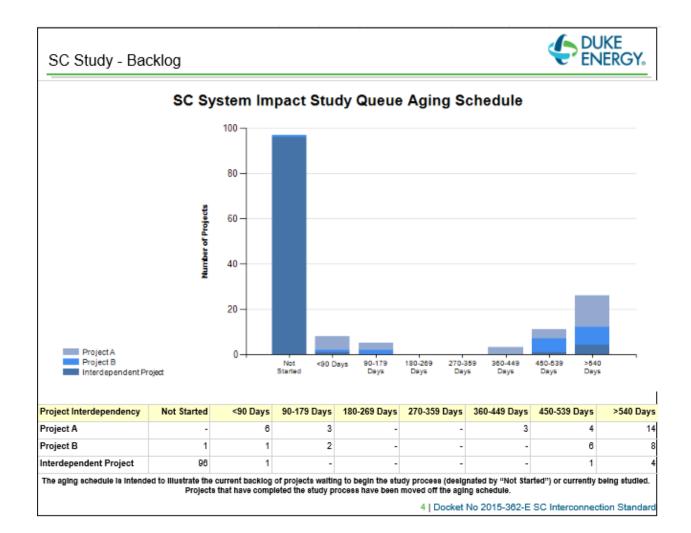
Please see section V. All CPRE Tranche 1 winners have progressed through System Impact Study and Facilities Study. The Companies intend to provide information for Tranche 2, similar to the October 31, 2019 report for Tranche 1, after the Tranche 2 winners have completed Facilities Study.

**c.** Information on Interconnection Study Backlogs for CPRE versus non-CPRE projects.

### **RESPONSE:**

As reported in the Companies' second and third quarter 2019 reports filed on August 1, 2019 and November 1, 2019, respectively, the interconnection study backlog is not negatively impacted by the existence of the Grouping Studies conducted for CPRE Tranche 1. Non-CPRE projects that were not designated as on hold for distribution interdependency or transmission constraints continued to be studied in queue priority order. With regard to CPRE projects, no such "backlog" exists, as these projects are not studied under the SCGIP Section 4.3 system impact study process, but instead pursuant to the CPRE grouping study evaluation process approved by the Commission's Order Nos. 2018-803(A) and 2019-817 issued in this docket. Pursuant to the waivers granted by the Commission, the CPRE Queue Number used for the Grouping Study was not interdependent with other Interconnection Requests. Additionally, winning CPRE projects were able to continue to progress through the interconnection process as these projects were not interdependent with earlier-queued Interconnection Requests and not dependent upon the construction of Network Upgrades in the transmission constrained areas.

Please see the chart below, which illustrates the current state of the Companies' interconnection queues:



**d.** The number of CPRE versus non-CPRE projects that achieved each significant interconnection milestone (i.e. system impact study complete, facilities study complete, IA signed, interconnection achieved) during the reporting period.

### **RESPONSE**:

All CPRE Tranche 1 winning projects have completed the study process, signed Interconnection Agreements, and are in the construction phase. One CPRE Tranche 2 winning project was an advanced stage proposal, meaning it had completed the study process and signed an Interconnection Agreement prior to submitting a bid into CPRE. One non-advanced stage CPRE Tranche 2 project has completed System Impact Study.

42 non-CPRE projects achieved interconnection in Q4 2020. 16 non-CPRE projects executed Interconnection Agreements in Q4 2020. 15 non-CPRE projects completed

Facilities Study in Q4 2020. 32 non-CPRE projects completed System Impact Study in Q4 2020.